

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A computer implemented method for facilitating the allocation of fees comprising the steps of:
 - receiving data from an automated billing system;
 - establishing a user profile;
 - determining at least one fee using said data and based upon said user profile; and
 - charging said fee to an account.
2. The method of claim 1 wherein said automated billing system is a Computer Reservation System.
3. The method of claim 2 wherein said data is Passenger Name Record data.
4. The method of claim 3 wherein said fee is charged to an account associated with said user profile.
5. The method of claim 1 further including the step of providing a portion of said data to a management information system for providing periodic reports.
6. The method of claim 1 further including the steps of:
 - formatting data in a Passenger Name Record data format; and
 - providing said data to said Computer Reservation System.
7. The method of claim 4 further comprising the step of providing an enhanced descriptive billing statement with fee reconciling information.
8. The method of claim 4 further comprising the step of providing said account with fee reconciling information.
9. The method of claim 2 further comprising the step of charging a fee for use of the method of claim 2.
10. A digital storage medium having instructions stored thereon configured to execute the method of claim 1.

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11. A system for facilitating allocation of fees, said system comprising:
 - means for receiving data from an accounting system;
 - means for receiving a user profile;
 - means for determining a fee to be charged for assistance by a facilitating entity based on said user profile and data; and
 - means for charging said fee to an account associated with said user profile.
 12. The system of claim 11, wherein said data further comprises Passenger Name Record data.
 13. The system of claim 12, wherein said data is received from a Computer Reservation System.
 14. The system of claim 11, wherein said processing system is further configured to assist said credit entity in providing an enhanced billing statement comprising fee reconciliation information.
 15. The system of claim 11, wherein said processing system is further configured to provide said credit entity with fee reconciliation information.
 16. The system of claim 11, wherein said processing system further provides data to a management information system for providing said facilitating entity with periodic reports.
 17. A computer implemented method for facilitating allocation of fees for use by a travel agency, wherein said travel agency assists a traveler in making travel related purchases from a merchant entity, said method comprising the steps of:
 - receiving Passenger Name Record data from an accounting system, said accounting system configured to receive Passenger Name Record data from a Computer Reservation System;
 - receiving a user profile;
 - comparing said Passenger Name Record data to information in said user profile to determine a fee to be charged for said assistance by said travel agency; and

charging said fee to an account associated with said user profile.

18. The method of claim 18, further comprising the step of facilitating the enhancement of a billing statement with fee reconciliation information.
19. The method of claim 18, further comprising the step of providing said credit entity with fee reconciliation information.
20. The method of claim 18, further comprising the step of charging said fee to a different account than the account used to charge for the cost of said travel related purchase.
21. The method of claim 18, further comprising the steps of:
 - providing data to a management information system for providing said facilitating entity with periodic reports; and
 - providing at least some of said Passenger Name Record data to said management information system.
22. A digital storage medium having instructions stored thereon configured to execute the method of claim 18.
23. A method for receiving automated fee billing associated with a travel agency, said method comprising the steps of:
 - providing user profile information including an account for billing of fees;
 - conducting a transaction with a merchant; and
 - receiving an account billing statement including a separate fee charged for the transaction based upon said user profile information.
24. The method of claim 25 wherein said transaction is a ticket purchase.
25. The method of claim 25 wherein said transaction is emergency travel service assistance.
26. The method of claim 25 wherein said fee is reconciled with associated transaction costs in said account billing statement.